

## **SIEC Briefing Paper on SHB 1271/SSB 5975, Creation and Responsibilities of the SIEC**

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### **Description**

The Information Services Board (ISB) created the State Interoperability Committee (SIEC) at the June 2001 meeting. Substitute House Bill 1271, introduced by Representative Glenn Anderson during this last legislative session, codified the SIEC as a standing committee of the ISB, and a part of the Department of Information Service's (DIS) enabling legislation.

The intent of the new legislation is to ensure the proper management and coordination of the state's investments in radio communications and licensed spectrum allocation. The legislation also clarified the role of the SIEC and its relationship with the ISB.

Marie Sullivan, Legislative Liaison for the Department of Information Services will discuss SHB 1271 and describe the requirements and highlights of this legislation.

### **Recommendations to the Committee**

This is a report only, without staff recommendations.

### **Status**

Since passage of SHB 1271/SSB 5975, the ISB appointed 13 of the 15 voting members of the SIEC. The ISB Chair also named Chief Ronal Serpas, chair of the SIEC.

### **Issues**

The responsibilities of the SIEC are as follows:

- By December 31, 2003, an inventory of state-operated public safety radio systems is due to the legislature.
- By March 31, 2004, an interim statewide public safety communications plan must be submitted.
- By July 31, 2004, an inventory of all public safety communications systems must be completed, and
- By December 31, 2004, a final statewide communications plan must be submitted to the legislature.
- This SIEC is to make recommendations to the ISB for technical standards for the state wireless radio communication system.
- Coordinate and manage on behalf of the ISB the licensing and use of state-designated and state-licensed radio frequencies.
- The SIEC is to seek support including possible federal funding, or other funding, for state-sponsored wireless communications.
- Develop recommendations for legislation that ...(will) promote interoperability... (is this info from a quote?)
- Foster cooperation and coordination among public safety and emergency response organizations
- Work with wireless communications groups and associations to ensure interoperability among all public safety and emergency response organizations.

- Work with the wireless communications groups to promote interoperability of wireless communications.

Staffing: the legislature did not provide staffing for the SIEC or for the agencies that comprise the SIEC. Support for committee activities (required inventory, reports and plans) will come from existing staff resources.

Funding: the legislature did not provide funding for the SIEC.

**Background**

At the June 2001, ISB meeting, the Washington State Patrol made a presentation on behalf of the community of interest recommending the creation of the SIEC. Although there was a beginning structure to the SIEC, there was no legal requirement for agencies to meet and work together. This legislation gives the SIEC the authority and clear responsibility to work on behalf of the citizens of Washington as well as the public safety community of interest.